

ANGABEN ZUM KENNENLERNAUFTENTHALT / ABOUT YOUR GET-TO-KNOW-STAY

Fakultät / Institut / Faculty / Institute:

Institut für Ägyptologie und Koptologie

Anschrift / Address:

Schlaunstraße 2, 48143 Münster, Germany

Zeitraum / Length of stay:

von / from : 23/05/2016
(TT/MM/JJJJ – dd/mm/yyyy)

bis / until: 03/06/2016
(TT/MM/JJJJ – dd/mm/yyyy)

Administrative Formalitäten / Administrative formalities

1. Visum / Visa:

a) Welche Art musste beantragt werden? / Which type of visa did you have to apply for?

No Visa needed for stays < 90 days; Canadian passport only.

b) Wo haben Sie das Visum beantragt? / Where did you apply for the visa?

For stays > 90 days, the Canadian Youth Mobility Visa enables Canadians between 18-35 years of age to work and study in Germany as part of an agreement between the two countries.

c) Wann haben Sie das Visum beantragt? / When did you apply for the visa?

Information on this Visa can be found in:

http://www.canada.diplo.de/contentblob/3305406/Daten/877093/youth_mobility_guide_download.pdf

2. Welche Versicherungen haben Sie abgeschlossen/abschließen müssen und von welchen Versicherungsunternehmen? / What types of insurances did you purchase and from which insurance companies?

The RAMQ (Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec - the public insurance for all residents of Québec) covers 75% of all medical or dental expenses incurred abroad for students. My personal insurance (Médic-Construction, through my partner's employer) covers the rest of the costs. As to civil responsibilities, my home insurance (RSA) covers me for damages abroad up to 2M\$.

3. Welche Impfungen waren nötig? / Which vaccines were necessary?

None are specifically recommended for travel to Germany. However, vaccination for diphtheria, tetanus, hepatitis A and B are generally advised for Canadian travelers regardless of destination.

4. Wie haben Sie Geldangelegenheiten vor Ort abgewickelt? (z.B. über Konto vor Ort, Online-Konto, Kreditkarte usw.?) / How did you manage your finances? (e.g., opened a local bank account, online banking, credit card, etc.)

My bank account (TD Canada Trust) is available worldwide, as is my Visa. It wasn't necessary in this case, since the Kennenlernenstipendium was generous and covered our expenses in Germany.

Information & Unterstützung / Information & Support

5. Wie erhielten Sie Informationen über Deutschland, die WWU Münster und die Kontaktperson? Waren die Informationen nützlich? / How did you get information about Germany, WWU Münster and contact person? Was the information useful?

<i>Informationsquelle / Information source</i>	<i>persönlicher Nutzen / useful</i>	
	<i>ja / yes</i>	<i>nein / no</i>
WWU Münster	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Heimatinrichtung / Home institution	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Andere StudentInnen / Other students	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Internet	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sonstiges (bitte genaue Bezeichnung eingeben) / Other (please specify) Through Iva & Linda Dieks, who were both very generous with their time and provided us with all the necessary information before and during our stay.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

6. Erhielten Sie angemessene Unterstützung durch die WWU Münster vor und während Ihres Aufenthaltes? / Did you receive adequate support from WWU Münster before and during your research stay?

(1 = sehr schlecht/poor; 5 = sehr gut/excellent)

1	2	3	4	5
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Beschreiben Sie bitte näher. / Please describe further.

Excellent support from Iva, Linda and the whole team at the Graduate Center. During our initial meeting, they gifted us with care packages which included information about the city, the university and activities we could participate in, as well as a small dictionary to help us better communicate in German. We were shown around the main campus and the historic center, which was a great help for navigating the winding streets. Workshops regarding what to expect when living & studying in Münster were also organized; these were of great value and very much appreciated.

7. Welche Vorbereitung auf das Zielland (bspw. Information zu Geschichte, Staatsform, Kultur, Verhalten, Religion etc.) wären hilfreich gewesen? / Which information or preparations in terms of the host country (e.g., history, language, culture, customs) would have been helpful?

I believe the stipend-coordinators did an excellent job introducing us to German/Münsteraner culture. I would also have loved a regionally specific supper, perhaps as a goodbye activity.

Additional workshops on apartment hunting and cycling in the city would have been a treat also.

8. Welche Vorbereitung hinsichtlich der WWU Münster (bspw. Hochschulstrukturen, akademische Gepflogenheiten etc.) wären hilfreich gewesen? / Which information or preparations in terms of WWU Münster (e.g., university structure, academic customs) would have been helpful?

They also did a great job helping us navigate the academic labyrinth of WWU. They were always available for additional questions and were open to adapting the tours to our specific needs, which was a nice plus.

9. Wie kann das Projekt IP@WWU Ihrer Meinung nach verbessert werden (z.B. Information, Bewerbungsverfahren)? / How could the IP@WWU project be improved (e.g., information, application procedures)?

I don't really know how one could improve; the help was comprehensive!

10. Wie beurteilen Sie den Integrationsgrad mit den Studierenden und Mitarbeitern der WWU Münster? / How do you consider your degree of integration with WWU Münster's students and staff?

(1 = sehr schlecht/poor; 5 = sehr gut/excellent)				
1	2	3	4	5
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Beschreiben Sie bitte näher. / Please describe further.

I'm unsure what is meant by "degree of integration". I feel everyone we met was very nice and encouraged us to ask questions or exchange, which we did. I did my best to gather as much information as possible and chat with other students concerning their experience in Münster.

Unterkunft & Forschungsinfrastruktur / Accommodation & research infrastructure

11. Art der Unterbringung in Münster / Type of accommodation in Münster

- ☐ durch die Universität (Studentenwohnheim o. Ä.) / university accommodation (e. g., student halls of residence)
- ☐ private Unterkunft (z.B. mit einer Familie)/ private housing (e. g. family)
- ☐ WG / shared apartment
- ☒ Sonstiges (bitte genaue Bezeichnung eingeben) / other (please specify)

Backpacker hostel

12. Wie haben Sie die Unterkunft gefunden? / How did you find the accommodation?

- ☒ WWU Münster
- ☐ Freunde, Familie / Friends, family
- ☐ Privatmarkt / Private market
- ☐ Internet
- ☐ Sonstiges (bitte genaue Bezeichnung eingeben) / other (please specify)

Iva was kind enough to book affordable accomodations on our behalf.

13. Wie zufrieden waren Sie mit Ihrer Unterkunft?
How satisfied were you with your accommodation?

(1 = sehr unzufrieden/very dissatisfied; 5 = sehr zufrieden/very satisfied)				
1	2	3	4	5
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Beschreiben Sie bitte näher. / Please describe further.

Overall, the staff was kind and the place was clean. As far as hostel's go, this one was very good. Great big kitchen, 2 refrigerators to store our food. Internet access was sporadic and the room was very small, but we weren't in it very much, so not a problem.

I'm not one for communal showers/bathrooms, but they were clean.

14. Wie zufrieden waren Sie mit der Infrastruktur der WWU Münster / How satisfied were you with WWU Münster's infrastructure:

	(1 = sehr unzufrieden/very dissatisfied; 5 = sehr zufrieden/very satisfied)				
	1	2	3	4	5
Zugang zum Arbeitsplatz (PC, Internet) / Access to working space (PC, Internet)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Zugang zu den Bibliotheken / Access to libraries	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sonstiges (bitte genaue Bezeichnung eingeben) / Other (please specify)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Beschreiben Sie bitte näher. / Please describe further.

As visitors, we didn't have access to the University wifi, nor did we have a library card. Thus, I can't really evaluate these services.

Akademische Qualität / Academic quality

15. Wie beurteilen Sie die Qualität der Betreuung durch Ihren Gastgeber-Dozenten? How do you rate the quality of your host supervisor's support?

(1 = sehr schlecht/poor; 5 = sehr gut/excellent)

	1	2	3	4	5
Zugänglichkeit zu dem/der BetreuerIn / Supervisor's accessibility	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Engagement des Betreuers/der Betreuerin / Supervisor's engagement	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Beratungsgespräche mit dem/der Betreuer/in / Consultations with the supervisor	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sonstiges (bitte genaue Bezeichnung eingeben) / Other (please specify)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Beschreiben Sie bitte näher. / Please describe further.

Prof. Angelika Lohwasser was very kind and generous with her time and support. Even though she had an unforeseen medical setback, she nevertheless made herself available to me through email and joined us as soon as she was back on her feet. Additionnally, she invited me to join her in a museum tour in nearby Hamm, and for a lecture at Humboldt Universität after my stay in Münster.

I essentially had 2 meetings with her regarding the Ph.D specifics, and would have like more. But considering her illness and the workshop schedule, I can't complain.

16. Wie beurteilen Sie die Qualität ... / How do you rate the quality of...

(1 = sehr schlecht/poor; 5 = sehr gut/excellent)

	1	2	3	4	5
Ihrer Forschungsarbeiten?/research activities you took?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
des an der Gasteinrichtung zur Verfügung stehenden Forschungsmaterials?/study material you obtained at your host institution?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Beschreiben Sie bitte näher. / Please describe further.

Dr Johannes Auenmüller gave me a tour of the Institut library, and provided access to it through the loan of a key. I could thus pursue my research there as I wished during my stay.

17. Wie unterscheiden sich die Forschungsstruktur und -kultur an der WWU Münster von denen an Ihrer Heimatuniversität (bzw. in Deutschland von denen in Ihrem Heimatland)? / How do research structure and research culture at WWU Münster differ from those at your home university (or in Germany from your home country in general)?

The German Ph.D programs are either individual or structured, while in Canada it's rather a mix of both; you have a number of classes to attend in addition to your own Ph.D research. The German Ph.D seems to be much more research oriented, promoting individual initiative and distribution of our research through publication and conference participation; in Canada, these tasks must be done as extracurricular work. Further, WWU seems to offer more work opportunities for its Ph.D students than my home university, where student work is scarce. However, government funding for high-achieving students in Canada is very good. The Excellence Clusters in Germany are also an interesting albeit still mysterious (to me) development.

Kosten / Expenses

18. Wie hoch waren die wöchentlichen Lebenshaltungskosten während Ihres Auslandsaufenthalts? / What were average weekly costs during your stay abroad?

	€
Unterkunft / accommodation	140
Lebensmittel / food	175
öffentliche Verkehrsmittel / Transportation	10
Museums & visits throughout the city	10
Gifts, academic books & unforeseen clothing costs	50
<i>Gesamtsumme per Woche / Total per week</i>	385

19. Wurden Ihre Kosten durch das Kennenlernstipendium gedeckt? / Did the get-to-know stipend cover your costs?

☒ Ja / yes
 ☐ Nein, per Woche habe ich zusätzlich _____ € ausgegeben.
 No, I spent additionally _____ € per week.

20. Lagen Ihre wöchentlichen Ausgaben in Münster höher als in Ihrem Heimatland? / Did you spend more in Münster compared to what you normally spend in your home country per week?

☒ Nein / no
 ☐ Ja / yes, _____ €.

21. Mussten Sie irgendeine Art von Gebühren an der WWU Münster entrichten? / Did you have to pay any kind of fees at WWU Münster?

☒ Nein / no
 ☐ Ja / yes, _____ € für / for _____

(bitte genaue Bezeichnung eingeben / please specify)

Persönliche Erfahrungen / Your personal experience

22. Welche spezifischen Ziele hatte Ihr Kennenlernaufenthalt? Haben Sie sie erreicht? / Which specific objectives did you have for your get-to-know stay and did you achieve them?

(1 = überhaupt nicht erreicht/not at all;
5 = voll erreicht/fully)

Ziele / Aims:	1	2	3	4	5
Meet my future Ph.D. advisor	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Establish a Ph.D. plan	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Learn the academic specifics of WWU	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Get a general understanding of the city distribution	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Estimate how much my Ph.D. in Münster will cost	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

23. Wie würden Sie Ihren Kennenlernaufenthalt insgesamt einschätzen? / How would you evaluate your get-to-know stay in general?

Excellent! It was a great experience and such a huge help for Ph.D. planning.

24. Bitte beschreiben Sie Ihre beste Erfahrung / Please describe your best experience.

The first day, exploring the city with Iva, then with Johannes (Auenmüller), then meeting everyone at the Institut and doing a bit of research.

25. Bitte beschreiben Sie Ihre schlechteste Erfahrung / Please describe your worst experience.

Getting harassed by a begger.

26. Halten Sie die Dauer Ihres Kennenlernaufenthaltes für / Do you consider your get-to-know stay to have been...

- ☐ zu kurz / too short
☐ zu lang / too long
☒ genau richtig / just right

Falls zu kurz oder zu lang, welche Dauer hätten Sie sich gewünscht? / If too short or too long: which length would have been ideal?

Beschreiben Sie bitte näher. / Please describe further.

27. Welche Tipps können Sie nachfolgenden Studierenden, die ebenfalls einen Aufenthalt an der WWU planen, zu dieser Einrichtung, dieser Stadt, diesem Land etc. geben (Geheimtipps, lohnenswerte Aktivitäten, wichtige Ratschläge)? / Could you please give other students planning a stay at WWU Münster some tips about this institution, city or country (insider info, useful activities, valuable advice)?

- Before you initiate the administrative side of your Ph.D. studies, make sure to visit the Graduate center; they are there to help you and they are very friendly.
- GET A BIKE!
- Münster is an expensive city to live in, so make sure you shop for an apartment which fits your needs well in advance of your arrival. Navigating the ads is difficult, so don't be afraid to ask for help.
- The bi-weekly market is fantastic. Go as often as you can.
- Learn German basics. Though you can manage with just English, speaking German is very useful and your efforts are appreciated by the locals, even if you haven't mastered the language.
- Visit the city and take advantage of the activities. It seems small, but there is always something going on and its always great fun.